Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief John R. Batiste

Captain Jeff DeVere Government and Media Relations (360) 753-5299 – office (360) 753-5469 – fax http://www.wsp.wa.gov

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Contact: Trooper Mike Kesler

(360) 449-7960 Office (360) 906-2405 Pager

mike.kesler@wsp.wa.gov

Seatbelt Violation Nabs a Stolen Vehicle

On May 13, 2006 at approximately 6:51 am, Trooper Stephen Robley observed a black 1985 Chevrolet Blazer traveling southbound on SR-503 approaching NE 99th Street. The driver was not wearing her seatbelt. Trooper Robley pulled behind the Chevrolet where it stalled out blocking the roadway. Trooper Robley pushed the Chevrolet into a parking lot clearing the roadway.

WSP dispatch advised Trooper Robley the Chevrolet had been reported stolen.

Trooper Robley contacted the driver and placed her under arrest for being in possession of a stolen vehicle. The driver did not having any identification, but identified herself as Autumn L. Burns, a 27 year old resident of Vancouver.

Autumn Burns was listed on the stolen report as a possible suspect. Burns denied any knowledge of the Chevrolet being reported stolen.

Trooper Robley conducted a search of the vehicle incident to Autumn Burn's arrest. He located a multi-colored glass pipe with charred residue, which had an odor of marijuana in a cloth bag. The cloth bag also contained written letters with Autumn Burn's name on them.

The Chevrolet was released to the registered owner who knew Autumn Burns and did not give her or any other person's permission to drive the vehicle.

Trooper Robley transported Autumn Burns to the Clark County Jail, where a search by Corrections Staff found another glass pipe hidden on Burn's body.

Burns was booked for Taking a Motor Vehicle without Permission, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and No Valid Operator's License. She was cited for the Seatbelt Violation.

This is another example where troopers looking for seatbelt violation can lead to bigger violations.



